The Evening World.
ESTABLISHED BY JOSEPH PULITZER.
Published Daily Except Sunday by the Press Publishing Company, Nos. 53 to 63 Park Row, New York.
RALPH PULITZER, President, 63 Park Row.
J. ANGUS SHAW, Treasurer, 63 Park Row.
JOSEPH PULITZER, Jr., Secretary, 63 Park Row.

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THE "HEADLESS STRIKE."

THE strike of railroad workers has spread to this city. The movement of freight is seriously impeded. Food shortage seems imminent.

What is the moving force behind the present trouble?

Is it only a wave of the unrest that often seizes labor in the spring? Or is it the deliberate work of powers that keep themselves in the background?

Two contributing causes seem fairly clear:

(1) Yardmen are aggressively impatient because, as they claim, trainmen get the lion's share of wage advances, etc., secured by the railroad brotherhoods.

(2) Rebellious young blood is asserting itself in organized railroad labor against what it calls the slowness and old-fogyism of present brotherhood leadership.

The cleavage is not perfectly defined, but division is, in the main, on the above lines.

If the rifts become much wider, organized labor is in for internal struggle that will cost it dear in loss of hard-won power and prestige.

It will not be only the public that suffers.

THE LITERACY TEST.

LAWS restricting immigration into the United States are conceded to be imperfect.

But the relaxation of the literacy restriction recommended by the Inter-Racial Council and other interests deserves scant attention.

Stripped of inessential, the argument for repeal rests solely on the needs of certain industries for a larger supply of unskilled immigrant labor.

It is admitted that the literacy test frequently works hardship and injustice. It does not exclude revolutionists and agitators. It may exclude persons who are potential good citizens.

But in asking the repeal the opponents of restriction offer no substitute which is better.

Literacy restriction is imperfect, but it appears to be a rough-and-ready, practical and effective means of excluding a certain proportion of immigrants without involving this Nation in diplomatic difficulties, such as are caused by exclusion of Asiatics.

The argument that certain industries need these rough laborers will not appeal to the country as a whole. The lessons of the coal and steel strikes in which the employers cried "Bolshevism" are fresh in the public mind.

The plain fact revealed by these strikes was that there were lumps of dross in the melting pot.

Unrestricted immigration means addition to the lumps of unmelted un-Americanism.

The particular employers who desire more raw labor are the very ones in whose little kettles the metal has proved most refractory.

Give Americanization a chance to do its work.

Restrict immigration until the dross is melted.

The Evening World holds no brief for the literacy test, but until a more desirable restriction is framed that will keep out an equally large proportion of immigrants or insure a more readily Americanizable supply, retain this safeguard of citizenship.

CALL IN BETTER JUDGES.

A MEETING of churchwomen has been called to consider permanent substitutes for the saloon.

Three Doctors of Divinity are scheduled to address the meeting on the question, which is one of serious importance.

May we suggest to the programme committee that the arrangement seems a trifle one sided?

To balance the D. D.'s it might be well to include some B. B.'s, Bachelors of Beer, the most disreputably ragged specimens of the genus "hobo" which the Bowery affords.

With all respect to the pastors, it is highly probable that their opinions are formed at second hand. They personally have no need for a substitute for the saloon even though they may be almost as poverty stricken as some of the more or less recent members of the "poor man's clubs."

To be effective in their search for substitutes the churchwomen must find out what WILL serve and not what OUGHT to serve.

Failure to take the human equation into consideration has caused some previous "substitutes" to prove almost as popular as warfime substitutes for white flour.

PROFITEERS AND PROFITEERS.

PROFITEERING is not a humorous subject, but even profiteering has its humorous side.

Consider the letter received by Profiteer Hunter Riley from a "well known society woman."

She complains that a hotel charged her a dollar for a glass of lemonade "and very weak at that."

Profiteering? Of course it is, but not for Mr. Riley to worry about.

Profiteering, but such as Mrs. Society Woman has under her thumb. She can drive down the price by refusing to buy.

Profiteering in inessentials is a sin. Profiteering such as The Evening World has been exposing is a crime. The profiteer in essentials is the game for Mr. Riley. We hope his bag will bulge.

Burns Brothers, who have doubled their net profit on each ton of coal handled, even though this amounts to only 20 cents a ton, are guiltier than all the fashionable hotel keepers in the city who may charge one dollar or five dollars for a drink of lemonade, if they can attract society women foolish enough to pay the price.

RELIEF IN THE RENT LAWS.

A FAR-REACHING and highly significant interpretation of the new law restraining rent increases was made yesterday by Justice Davies in the 7th District Municipal Court.

Justice Davies held that it makes no difference how long a tenant has occupied the landlord's premises, or who was occupying them and paying the rent in April, 1919.

The present tenant is entitled to the protection of the new law, which says that a rent increase of more than 25 per cent. over the rent paid for the premises in April, 1919, can only be justified by requiring a heavy burden of proof from the landlord.

In other words, the court holds that the rent goes with the premises and not with the person who, on a given date, is or was the tenant.

"The new laws were drawn," Justice Davies declares, "for the benefit of all tenants, whether they have lived in one apartment for years or only weeks. In fixing rentals, the law provides that the rate of April, 1919, shall be the basis, regardless of who the tenant may have been."

> **"The courts are crowded with landlords who seek to oust their tenants, thinking that once they get them out they will be allowed to charge what they please in renting to new occupants. Such landlords are going to be badly fooled if they succeed in their eviction. They will get no additional rent by ousting a tenant, and they might as well retain the present occupants."**

Here is strong promise of protection against landlords who figure rent not as adhering to the premises but as a variable and unlimited quantity to be extracted from the pockets of successive persons who move in.

An outcry may be expected from the landlords that this is the last straw and the deathblow to hopes that capital will see stronger inducement in building projects.

Why?

Because, since housing is at last beginning to be recognized as a matter closely related to public welfare, reasonable and profitable return on housing investment becomes a matter of public interest?

Because an attempt is made to establish some standard for determining where a rent in a given instance ceases to be just and becomes extortion?

Surely such a standard will prove greatly to the advantage of the honest landlord, who is entitled to raise his rents without being denounced and resisted as a profiteer.

When the realty speculators' revilings of the new rent laws have somewhat subsided, the realty investor may begin to discover much good in these laws as a means toward stabilizing rentals and realty values on bases that will endure to his advantage long after 1922, when the present emergency rent legislation ceases to be operative.

Protecting tenants against overgrasping landlords is pretty certain to develop new views of the relation which will result in surer, steadier returns to the property owner.

Where is the intelligence of the better element among New York realty interests that it fails to get aboard instead of in the way of the new movement?

HELP THE POST-GRADUATE HOSPITAL.

"POST-GRADUATE," the affectionate diminutive by which the New York Post-Graduate School and Hospital is known, is an addition to the list of educational institutions which have found it necessary to undertake to raise an endowment fund.

The sum needed, $2,000,000, is to be raised by public subscription from the medical profession and from the public.

"Post-Graduate" has an unusually valid claim on the public. Other schools have relied primarily on the loyalty of alumni who have benefited from the instruction and associations provided.

The public as a whole has been the beneficiary of the work done at Post-Graduate. The part which Post-Graduate has played in lengthening the average span of human life is immeasurable.

Nearly 10 per cent. of the Doctors of Medicine, and these the most able and progressive, have studied at Post-Graduate and have applied the added skill and information to their practice, and to the benefit of the public. The benefits of research have been made available for all the world.

Post-Graduate differs from other schools in that it did not depend on either public grants or gifts in its infancy. The faculty carried it until it was a success.

Post-Graduate must have more money now.

New York has become the centre of the medical world and has surpassed Berlin and America. Graduates come here instead of going abroad. Enrolment has more than doubled. New problems arise which require study and research.

Post-Graduate deserves well of all America and of the world. Particularly it deserves well of New York because of its free clinic and dispensary and its home treatment work on the east side.

Makin' 'Em Work in Russia

By J. H. Cassel

FROM EVENING WORLD READERS

What kind of letter do you find most readable? Isn't it the one that gives you the worth of a thousand words in a couple of hundred?

There is fine mental exercise and a lot of satisfaction in trying to say much in few words. Take time to be brief.

Prohibition That Isn't.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

It makes one smile to read about "A Confirmed Drunkard's" reformation. We have had about three months of Prohibition and what is the result? I can go out any time and get my fill of any kind of strong drink if I have the price, but I can't buy a decent glass of harmless beer or light wine. Therefore, instead of having temperance, which I believe with a great many others is the most desirable condition, we have Prohibition which does not prohibit.

A law which the people have no scruples in breaking is a bad law. Every one knows, if they are honest enough to admit it, that nine out of every ten persons will not hesitate to break the Prohibition law, as they consider it a breach of their lawful rights.

An instance: I have some claret stowed away which I occasionally drink at meal times. One evening, at my father's house just before dinner, he remarked that he missed having a glass of beer with his meals. Whereupon I volunteered to break the law of the good old U. S. A. and procure a bottle of claret for him. It is laughable to think that by carrying this bottle of claret a distance of two blocks I became a law breaker and was liable to arrest if caught.

In conclusion let me say that the sentiment of the people I am acquainted with is not for the return of whiskey as a drink but for temperance and the legalizing of the sale of light wines and beer.

A TEMPERATE AMERICAN.
New York, April 8, 1920.

Overloaded With Whiskey.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

"Bring back the beer and light wines" is my slogan. New York is overloaded with whiskey. They call it whiskey, but I think it is gasoline.

There are hundreds of young fellows in my district who had never touched "booze." Since Prohibition went into effect these same fellows are intoxicated four days out of every week. Bring back the good old beer—that's what we want—and whiskey be damned! M. K.

New York, April 8, 1920.

Not Yet Published.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Some time ago your columns informed the readers of the "What Do You Know?" questions that these questions and answers would be published in book or pamphlet form at some later date, and I have been watching for an announcement of such publication. Will you kindly advise me whom to apply to to obtain a copy of such publication?

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my admiration of the editorial attitude of The Evening World toward Prohibition and the Anti-Saloon League. It is a great pleasure to me to read your courageous denunciation of Anderson and all he represents. It is my humble opinion that the Eighteenth Amendment should be annulled. Although I am not in any way, directly or indirectly, interested in the liquor traffic, and in fact have always been exceedingly temperate in my personal habits, I do not believe it right to dictate to my neighbor what he shall drink, and I trust that eventually all right thinking, patriotic Americans will apply the rule of reason to their moral convictions with similar conclusions.

C. W. H.
Somerville, N. J., April 5, 1920.

Uncle Sam, Employer.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

A recent letter by M. V. A. drew a comparison between the Department of Justice employees and Post Office employees. Believing that some of your readers may receive a wrong impression, I would like to submit the following:

"M. V. A." refers to the fact that clerks in the Department of Justice who received $100 per month were cut to $90 to make possible the $240 bonus. He also states that the bonus was not cut off in the Post Office Department. I am a former employee of both of these Government departments, and I would like to point out that when drawing a comparison beween two departments he take two which have some common ground. These two departments are as unlike as the poles.

In the first place, there are few clerks in the Department of Justice receiving $90 a month. The place is full just now with $1,400 and $1,500 clerks who are not worth half that amount. They are products of the war. The Government at present abounds with employees who could not pass the examination that was necessary before the war. The older employees, myself as example, were receiving the same salaries as the new and incompetent war-product, with the result that when opportunity presented itself we resigned—so that what now remain in the Department of Justice are one and two year employees.

The particular department in which I was employed is now composed of two before the war employees and the balance new ones. They enjoy a thirty-day annual vacation and a thirty-day sick leave—which privilege is well taken advantage of.

Another thing: A great majority of Department of Justice clerks are law students, filling in neccessary law clerk time. A checking over of resignations will substantiate this. Therefore, clerking in that department would seem to be regarded as a means toward an end and not as a life position—in which light it is regarded by postal employees, of whom there are many in the service now over forty years.

Taking up the Post Office Department, I would point out that it is sometimes five years before a man is appointed a regular with a stated salary. During that five years "subbing" period his salary amounts to what he can make. In my own case it amounted at times to $1 a day—lasting from 5 in the morning to 7 and 8 at night. During the "subbing" period there is no vacation at all, and after a man is appointed a regular he is docked for every hour that he must take off because of sickness, death, or any reason at all; —no thirty day annual leave. I have come to work in the morning and was not able to put in over two hours —for that day I received one-fourth of a day's pay. My salary as a regular was $500 to start—after five years.

To sum it all up—why doesn't this Department of Justice clerk transfer into the Post Office Department? There are plenty of openings. Examinations are held very often, sometimes a couple of times a month. Tell Post Office employees there is an opening to transfer into the Department of Justice—you would be overwhelmed with applicants.

EX-GOVERNMENT CLERK.

Would Learn Self Valeting.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

I read your editorial "What Can a Man Do" with interest.

While I do not believe there is a demand for short courses in tailoring by which men could learn to be self-sufficient and laugh at the garment workers and manufacturers who have combined to set up prices, I do believe that there is a demand for instruction in the art of cleaning, sewing on buttons and pressing men's outer garments.

Business requires not only a letter of recommendation but also a neat, well-groomed appearance. One of the ways to maintain such a personal appearance is to have the clothes one is possessed of, no matter how old-fashioned or threadbare they may be, looking neat, clean and well ironed.

Why could not the Y. M. C. A. or some of the vocational schools give courses of instruction in this. It would not hurt the garment workers and manufacturers and I doubt if it would take any trade away from the shops that now do this service. Men who would attend such a course probably do not now patronize public valets. Neither would it offset private schools, because it is the writer's understanding that cutting schools do not teach the subjects referred to.

E. M. I. R.

UNCOMMON SENSE

By John Blake.

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DO THE HARD JOB FIRST.

Divide your day's work into what you like to do and what you hate to do. If it is anything like the average day's work it will be composed of both these things.

What you like to do is comparatively easy. At least it is enjoyable. What you hate to do may be merely tedious and dull; it may be very difficult. Usually men dislike most to do things they are the least competent to do.

When you have made your division tackle the hard job first. You may have to grit your teeth and shut your eyes when you go at it, but go at it just the same.

Do it in the morning, when you are fresh and when your brain has been put in good repair by a long night's sleep.

Whether it is tedious or difficult, go at it and get it done.

Once it is out of the way the decks will be cleared for the congenial task, which is the one that will count in the end, for no one ever made a success or a reputation doing anything he didn't like to do.

Work ought never to be easy, but it should always be enjoyable. Herbert Spencer did the work of twenty men in gathering material for his great system of philosophy. It was hard work; much of it was wearisome. But he did it cheerfully and conscientiously. The work that he enjoyed was setting the results of his mental labors down on paper, and it was because he put enjoyment into the work that readers throughout the ages will get enjoyment out of it.

There are dull details to all tasks, but they must be attended to. If it is possible, attend to them first. Never follow the line of least resistance. Do not shy at a job because you are not certain whether you can do it or not. Tackle it and find out.

And when you are done with the details and the difficulty you will have more time for the pleasant part of labor, and all labor that means your progress and the world's progress is sure to be pleasant, more pleasant, in truth, than any recreation you can ever find.

Has Science Solved Secret Of Lost Atlantis?

Explorer of Museum of Natural History Finds Traces of Great Submerged Continent —West Indies Were Perhaps at One Time Joined in Vast Island.

HAS "The Lost Atlantis," the great continent supposed to have been swallowed up by the ocean centuries ago, been found at last, miles below the waters of the Caribbean Sea?

The story of Atlantis is lost in the beginnings of history. It is first mentioned by Plato in the Timaeus as located west of the Pillars of Hercules, the portals of Gibraltar. Later it was thought that Atlantis might be off the coast of Brazil or North America.

It is supposed to have been a great island empire, a prosperous thriving country with highly developed culture, wide commerce and beautiful cities. Then, according to the legend, it vanished utterly, the entire continent having dropped into the sea.

Now scientists tell us that there is strong evidence that at one time such a continent existed in the region of the Antilles, the islands that fringe the Caribbean Sea. These islands of to-day are the mountain tops of that continent, and far below on the sea bottom may be traced the courses of the old prehistoric rivers that once drained those mountains.

Capt. H. E. Anthony, a New York explorer and Assistant Curator of the Department of Mammals of the American Museum of Natural History, believes that this is true. He has just returned from a four months' trip of exploration through the islands, and traces the strong analogy between the mammal types of the islands and the mainland. Of the assemblages of fossil mammals found in Cuba and Porto Rico he says:

"These fossils are of ancient types and strange ancestry. They strongly suggest, if not the existence of some mainland connection far back in the geological age, at least the union at some time of most of the Greater Antilles into a large Antillean continent. This continent, if it existed, must have lain in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea, with the longer axis east and west, and must have been an important land mass with large rivers and mighty mountain ranges rising, perhaps, as high as 20,000 feet or more above sea level."

Asked as to the probable extent of the continent, Capt. Anthony said: "To the eastward it took in the recently acquired Danish West Indies, while to the westward its limits must have taken in part of what is now Central America. Because of the strategic position of Jamaica in its relation to the Central American mainland and to such a hypothetical Antillean continent, it was highly important that the fossil fauna of Jamaica be explored."

He was successful in conducting such an exploration, and was able to verify in a most satisfactory manner his belief that the island would be found to have a fossil fauna. He secured several fossil mammals new to science, which, found in Pleistocene formations, must date back approximately 100,000 years. Fossil terrapins, tortoises and crocodiles were also found.

A surprising feature of the exploration conducted by the expedition was the failure to find any mammals closely related to those found either on Cuba or Porto Rico. This suggests the possibility that Jamaica may not have formed part of the old Antillean continent, but may have existed as an eastern peninsula jutting out from Honduras. A second theory (but one which has few adherents among recent day zoologists) is that Jamaica was isolated from all other land and received its mammal denizens as waifs on life rafts, floating masses of vegetation swept down the large continental rivers.

In addition to its success in collecting fossil fauna, the expedition obtained a large collection of the living animal forms. Only one land mammal is living on Jamaica to-day, the Indian coney, and even that had been thought to be practically extinct.

Captain Anthony, in describing the methods of hunting the Indian coney, said: "In order to get this animal, which is a rat-like creature the size of a cat, the collectors went up into the high mountains and lived with the natives hunting the coney in the primitive fashion with small dogs. The dogs tracked the mammal to its hole in the rocks or under some large trees, and there, amidst great excitement, the quarry was dug out. If the hole is a fairly large one, the dog can enter at once and come to grips with its prey, but more often a man has to pull away rocks and enlarge the hole. The natives get as thoroughly aroused as the dogs, and the scene at the finish is one worthy of larger game. When the dog finally gets close enough to the coney a fight ensues—for the animal is plucky. When the hunters decide that the dog has secured his grip they draw him out by his tail or a hind leg and take the coney away from him.

Captain Anthony brought back with him more than 700 specimens of bats, as well as collections of reptiles and birds. This material, when properly worked up, will undoubtedly throw much light on West Indian natural history and the results will help to direct the course of future investigations in that region. As the prophecies concerning Jamaica have borne such gratifying fruit, natural history exploration on the islands will receive great stimulus.

The expedition encountered a very interested co-operation on the part of the people of Jamaica, everywhere meeting with ready assistance and unfailing courtesy. All the more important areas of the island were visited with the idea of making the collection as complete as possible.